

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
PC-01 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 OC-06 CCO-00 OPR-02
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HONG KONG FOR RSS

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SUBJ: APRIL 15 DEMONSTRATIONS

REF: SEOUL 3073

SUMMARY: DEMONSTRATIONS CONTINUING APRIL 15, WITH GROUPS
APPROACHING AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, CHANCERY, AND COMPOUND II.
POLICE HAVE KEPT ALL BUT ONE GROUP OF FOUR MEN FROM ENTERING
ANY OF THE COMPOUNDS AND HAVE DISPERSED OR DETAINED ALL DEMON-
STRATIONS SO FAR. MARINE GUARD WAS ABLE TO KEEP DEMONSTRATORS
FROM ENTERING BUILDING. PRESS COVERAGE OF BUGGING AND DEMONSTRATIONS
HAS MOVED TO BACK PAGES OF PAPERS BUT MOST PAPERS REPORT FOREIGN
MINISTRY EXPECTATION THAT AMBASSADOR SNEIDER WILL PROVIDE
WRITTEN CLARIFICATION TODAY OR EARLY NEXT WEEK, WHILE CONTINU-
ING TO DENY BUGGING TOOK PLACE.

1. ON APRIL 15, ADDITIONAL DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST ALLEDGED
BUGGING OF BLUE HOUSE BEGAN AT 0900, WHEN A GROUP OF FOUR MEN
WALING PAST FRONT GATE OF CHANCERY SUDDENLY WHEELED AND DASHED
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TOWARD THE BUILDING. MARINE GUARD SUCCEEDED IN KEEPING THE
GROUP OUT OF BUILDING UNTIL THEY VOLUNTARILY WENT AWAY.
GROUP IDENTIFIED AS MEMBERS OF KOREA RESTAURANT WORKERS ASSOCIA-
TION LEFT BEHIND A LEAFLET ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT CARTER,
DRAWING UNFAVORABLE COMPARISON BETWEEN US REACTIONS TO WATER-
GATE AND BLUE HOUSE BUGGING.

2. AT ABOUT 0930 A GROUPS OF PERHAPS 300, IDENTIFIED AS MEMBERS OF DISABLED MILITARY AND POLICE VETRANS, CARRYING PLACARDS, BEGAN MOVING TOWARD AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE BUT WERE KEPT 100-200 YARDS FROM ENTRANCE AND WERE EVENTUALLY TAKEN AWAY BY POLICE.

3. AT ABOUT 1115 HOURS (FOLLOWING MONTHLY AIR RAID DRILL) SOME 12 MEMBERS OF GROUP CALLED "APRIL 19 REVOLUTIONARY FRATERNITY" TRIED TO APPROACH CHANCERY WITH PLACARDS BUT WERE DETAINED BY POLICE SOME DISTANCE FROM GATE. AT ABOUT 1140 A GROUP OF STUDENTS FROM A CATHOLIC GIRLS SEMINARY GATHERED OUTSIDE RESIDENCE COMPOUND II, SINGING HYMNS AND HANDING OUT LEAFLETS. THEY WERE ALSO MOVED OFF BY POLICE. AT ABOUT 1150 ANOTHER GROUP, IDENTIFIED AS SIX MEMBERS OF YONSEI UNIVERSITY ENGINEERING SCHOOL, UNFURLED A BANNER ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE CHANCERY AND WERE ALSO TAKEN OFF BY POLICE.

4. PRESS APRIL 15 REPORTS DEMONSTRATIONS OF DAY BEFORE ON BACK PAGES. MOST PAPERS FRONT PAGE REPORT FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCES THAT AMBASSADOR SNEIDER IS EXPECTED TO PROVIDE WRITTEN CLARIFICATION ON BUGGING "TODAY OR EARLY NEXT WEEK." SOURCES INDICATE AMBASSADOR HAD DELIVERED ORAL STATEMENTS DURING PAST WEEK WHICH ARE DESCRIBED AS INCLUDING EXPRESSION OF REGRET OVER DISPUTES BETWEEN US AND KOREA, WHILE DENYING THAT ANY BUGGING TOOK PLACE. STORIES INDICATE WRITTEN STATEMENT LIKELY TO BE SIMILAR.

SNEIDER

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